

_____’s service record

Confirmation service acts based on the
**Corporal and Spiritual
Works of Mercy**
and the Catholic Social
Teaching Principles



St. Aloysius Catholic Church

Dear Candidate for Confirmation,

As you already know, service to others is a component of Confirmation preparation because it is a component of the life of a Christian in general.

This booklet is your service record for recording **ten (10)** service activities. Try to get as many acts as possible finished early so that you don't create unnecessary stress later.

Your booklet should be completed before Confirmation; however, your progress will be checked occasionally.

Remember that serving others freely and with joy is the most powerful way to prove that Jesus is in our midst. What we do for others, we do for Him.

May the Holy Spirit guide and inspire you.

Peace be with you,

Denise Brennan
Director of Family Faith Formation
St. Aloysius Catholic Church

Parable of the Last Judgment

(Matthew 25:31-46)

When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, he will sit upon his glorious throne, and all the nations will be assembled before him. And he will separate them one from another, as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. He will place the sheep on his right and the goats on his left.

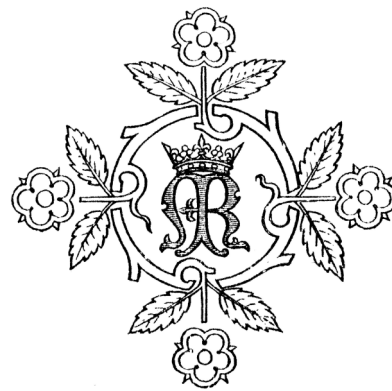
Then the king will say to those on his right, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father. Inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world. For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, a stranger and you welcomed me, naked and you clothed me, ill and you cared for me, in prison and you visited me.'

Then the righteous will answer him and say, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you drink? When did we see you a stranger and welcome you, or naked and clothe you? When did we see you ill or in prison, and visit you?' And the king will say to them in reply, 'Amen, I say to you, whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me.'

Then he will say to those on his left, 'Depart from me, you accursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels. For I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me no drink, a stranger and you gave me no welcome, naked and you gave me no clothing, ill and in prison, and you did not care for me.'

Then they will answer and say, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or ill or in prison, and not minister to your needs?' He will answer them, 'Amen, I say to you, what you did not do for one of these least ones, you did not do for me.'

And these will go off to eternal punishment, but the righteous to eternal life.



Pray for us, O Most Holy Mother of God!

Catholic Social Teaching Theme:

Care for God's Creation

The Corporal Works of Mercy

To feed the hungry

To give water to the thirsty

To clothe the naked

To shelter the homeless

To visit the sick

To visit the imprisoned, or ransom the captive

To bury the dead



Possible Activities:

1. Spend an hour or more cleaning up litter from green spaces and/or animal or aquatic habitats. Wear proper face and hand coverings, seek permission from land owners. Properly dispose of the litter.
2. Volunteer for a parks program. Contact the parks or rec department to find out how.
3. Repurpose or reuse household items. Do not replace an item that remains functional.

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2. How was this service act helpful to the person(s) you served?

3. What quality of Jesus did you share in this activity? Please explain.

Supervisor or Parent Signature: _____

Catholic Social Teaching Theme:
Option for the Poor and Vulnerable

Possible Activities:

1. Read several of these Bible passages and then apply the message/moral in your life in this current time period. Act upon the message in order to help someone in need. [Leviticus 19:9-10](#), [Job 34:20-28](#), [Proverbs 31:8-9](#), [Sirach 4:1-10](#), [Isaiah 25:4-5](#), [Isaiah 58:5-7](#), [Matthew 25:34-40](#)
2. Save an allowance, raise money, or use money from chores to donate food items to a food pantry or soup kitchen such as St. Louis Helping Hands or Martha's Kitchen.

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Corporal Work of Mercy:
Feed the hungry

Possible Activities:

1. Help at a food bank or food pantry (stock shelves, clean, organize, package)
2. Avoid favorite foods for a period of time, and give saved money to the needy
3. Organize a bake sale or Penny War for an organization fighting hunger

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Corporal Work of Mercy:
Give water to the thirsty

Possible Activities:

1. Cut your shower time in half
2. Avoid bottled water and encourage other to also; use reusable bottles
3. Give up soda, and give equivalent money toward wells or purifiers in developing areas

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Catholic Social Teaching Theme:
Rights and Responsibilities

Possible Activities:

1. Pray for those who struggle to assert their rights: the poor, homeless, lonely, elderly, mentally ill, and spiritually lost.
2. Read several of these Bible passages and then apply the message/moral in your life in this current time period. Act upon the message in order to help someone in need. [Leviticus 25:35](#), [Ruth 2:2-23](#), [Tobit 4:5-11](#), [Proverbs 31:8-9](#), [Isaiah 1:16-17](#), [Matthew 25: 31-46](#), [Acts 4:32-35](#), [2 Corinthians 9:6-15](#), [James 2:14-18](#).

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Catholic Social Teaching Theme:

Dignity of Work

Possible Activities:

1. Respect the need of others to work to provide for their families by offering to help babysit or care for a pet for free.
2. Respect the work of all and volunteer to do meaningful work: help clean and decorate the Church for Christmas or Easter celebrations. Provide physical labor to ease the burden of others.
3. Bring a cold or warm beverage, depending on the weather, to someone who works outdoors. Thank them for their work.

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Corporal Work of Mercy:

Clothe the naked

Possible Activities:

1. Support our parish's Advent Giving Tree and/or Coat and Blanket Drive
2. Clear closets of good outgrown clothes and donate them
3. Consider holding a "baby shower" for a pregnancy center and donate collected items to them

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Corporal Work of Mercy:

Shelter the homeless

Possible Activities:

1. Tour a shelter and stay to clean or do yard work.
2. Provide needed resources and/or time with a foster care or adoptive agency.
3. Make and send care packages with special treats to a local family shelter.

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Catholic Social Teaching Theme:

Solidarity

Possible Activities:

1. Pray for those who are marginalized (on the margins of society) the poor, homeless, lonely, elderly, mentally ill, and spiritually lost.
2. Seek someone marginalized to reach out to and include in an activity, social group, game...
3. Attend or organize an event that promotes peace and inclusion. Write a poem, prayer, song, blog... that promotes these and share with others.

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Catholic Social Teaching Theme:
Call to Family, Community & Participation

Possible Activities:

1. Become trained as an altar server, eucharistic minister, greeter, cantor or lecturer and get on a schedule to participate at a Sunday Mass.
2. Become a Volunteer at the Wood County Public Library, Humane Society, or etc.
3. Start or attend a Bible study group, in person or virtually. Commit to an hour of Eucharistic Adoration on Fridays, Teen Adoration, or during the Days of Grace.

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Corporal Work of Mercy:
Visit the sick

Possible Activities:

1. Help classmates catch up after absences from school.
2. Bring someone who is sick a home-cooked meal.
3. Take a Christmas and Easter flower to a homebound parishioner and visit with them.

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Corporal Work of Mercy:
Visit the imprisoned/ransom the captive

Possible Activities:

1. Write letters full of encouragement and hope and send to inmates at a local prison.
2. Donate Bibles or spiritual reading materials to a juvenile detention facility.
3. Communicate (visit, Zoom, hand-written letter) with someone who is homebound, hospitalized or in a nursing home.

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Catholic Social Teaching Theme:
Life and Dignity of the Human Person

Possible Activities:

1. Pray for those struggling with: unwanted pregnancies, hardships due to disabilities, oppression based on race, gender, economics, etc. , or to end the death penalty.
2. *Participate in the Rock-a-thon to help raise awareness and funds for the Pregnancy Center. (Participation in this event is expected.)*
3. Participate peacefully to promote civil rights and equality.

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Corporal Work of Mercy:

Bury the dead

Possible Activities:

1. Help take care of a cemetery; plant flags on graves for Veteran's or Memorial Day.
2. Make desserts and side dishes for funeral luncheons.
3. Research and learn what to say and what not to say to persons who are grieving.

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What is the difference between works of charity and works of justice?

Charity and Justice

Below is a basic chart to help clarify the distinction between works of justice and works of charity.

Charity Social Service	Justice Social Change
Scriptural Reference: Good Samaritan Story	Scriptural Reference: Exodus Story
The Gospel story does not attempt to survey the causes of highway banditry. The Samaritan provides temporary and immediate relief.	Moses does not ask for food and medicine for the Jewish slave-labor force. He challenges the institutional system. Message: "Let My People Go."
Private, individual acts	Public, collective actions
Responds to immediate need	Responds to long-term need
Provides direct service: food, clothing, shelter	Promotes social change in institutions
Requires repeated actions	Resolves structural injustice
Directed at the effects of injustice: symptoms	Directed at the root causes of social injustice
Examples:	
Homeless shelters, food shelves, clothing drives, emergency services	Legislative advocacy, changing corporate policies or practices, congregation-based community organizing.

The Spiritual Works of Mercy

- To instruct the ignorant
- To counsel the doubtful
- To admonish the sinner
- To bear wrongs patiently
- To forgive offenses willingly
- To comfort the afflicted
- To pray for the living and the dead



5 RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Every person has a fundamental right to life — the right that makes all other rights possible. Each person also has a right to the conditions for living a decent life — food, health care, housing, education and employment. We have a corresponding duty to secure and respect these rights for others and to fulfill our responsibilities to our families, to each other and to our larger society.



6 OPTION FOR THE POOR AND VULNERABLE

Scripture teaches that God has a special concern for the poor and vulnerable. The church calls on all of us to put the needs of the poor and vulnerable first. This preferential option for the poor and vulnerable should be reflected in both our daily lives and public policies. A fundamental measure of our society is how we care for and stand with our poor and vulnerable brothers and sisters.



7 CARE FOR GOD'S CREATION

The world that God created has been entrusted to all of us. Our stewardship of the earth is a form of participation in God's act of creating and sustaining the world. In our use of creation, we must be guided by a concern for generations to come. We show our respect for the Creator by our care for creation.

7 Themes of Catholic Social Teaching



1 LIFE AND DIGNITY OF THE HUMAN PERSON

Every human person is created in the image and likeness of God. Therefore, every person's life and dignity must be respected and supported from conception through natural death. We believe that the measure of every institution is whether it threatens or enhances the life and dignity of the human person.



2 CALL TO FAMILY, COMMUNITY AND PARTICIPATION

The human person is not only sacred, but social. How we organize our society — socially, economically, legally and politically — directly affects human dignity and the ability of every human person to grow in community. Marriage and family, the foundations for social life, should be strengthened and supported. Every person has a right to participate in society and a corresponding duty to work for the advancement of the common good and the well-being of all.



3 SOLIDARITY

We are one human family. We are our brothers' and sisters' keepers, wherever they may be. Loving our neighbor has global dimensions. At the core of the virtue of solidarity is the pursuit of justice and peace. Our love for all of our brothers and sisters calls us to seek a peaceful and just society where goods are distributed fairly, opportunity is promoted equally and the dignity of all is respected.



4 DIGNITY OF WORK

The economy must serve people, not the other way around. Work is more than a way to make a living; it is a form of continuing participation in God's creation. To uphold the dignity of work, the basic rights of workers must be respected — the right to productive work, to fair and livable wages, and to organize and join a union.

Spiritual Work of Mercy:

Instruct the ignorant

Possible Activities:

1. Teach young children their prayers; assist at Children's Liturgy of the Word.
2. Volunteer for Vacation Bible School (VBS)-setup and assist— during June.
3. Help siblings and classmates with school work. Assist teachers with tasks.

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Spiritual Work of Mercy:

Counsel the doubtful

Possible Activities:

1. Invite a non-Catholic friend, or Catholic who may not be attending, to Mass or a youth group event.
2. Encourage a friend who is struggling with believing to join a parish group for service or faith formation.
3. Help bullies to find a better way. Pray for and encourage them to change their words/actions; pray for and be a friend to someone being bullied.

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Spiritual Work of Mercy:

Pray for the living and the dead

Possible Activities:

1. Lessen daily time on video games and social media; use equivalent time to pray (remember especially soldiers, the sick/dying, pope, bishops, priests, and babies in danger of abortion).
2. Attend religious and civic events that remember the deceased; assist if possible.
3. Memorize the "Eternal Rest" prayer and commit to saying it daily for souls in purgatory.

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Spiritual Work of Mercy:

Comfort the afflicted

Possible Activities:

- 1.Support and pray for/with classmates whose parents are separating.
- 2.Give encouraging words to those who have lost athletic events, scholarships, opportunities.
- 3.Do something special for someone who is down that you think will make them happy.

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Spiritual Work of Mercy:

Admonish the sinner

Possible Activities:

- 1.Refuse to join in sinful actions; report wrongdoing to persons in authority.
- 2.Celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation—encourage your family to join you.
- 3.Refrain from using social media to hurt people. Do not post hurtful messages or incite others to do so. If you know someone who has, help them understand why it is wrong.

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Spiritual Work of Mercy:

Bear wrongs patiently

Possible Activities:

1. When you've made a mistake, don't make excuses; accept correction graciously and take responsibility for the mistake.
2. If someone is mean to you or mistreats you, do not retaliate. Use kindness in any reply.
3. Be kind to someone who has made a mistake. Seek reconciliation with others.

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Spiritual Work of Mercy:

Forgive offenses willingly

Possible Activities:

1. When someone has hurt you, don't hold a grudge or seek revenge.
2. Resist gossiping about those who have hurt you.
3. Be kind to your "enemies." Consider them friends you haven't yet gotten to know well.

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